

(Washington, D.C.) - *Rep. Tim Ryan (OH-17)* released the following statement in response to President Bush's State of the Union Address:

□

"In his speech to Congress and the nation, President Bush promised bipartisanship and collaboration. I can only hope he lives up to his word.

"If the President is truly serious about cooperation, he should start by working on a plan to bring our troops home safely from Iraq, offer an affordable healthcare plan without tax code gimmickry, end our dependence on foreign oil, and partner with Democrats to create a government that is both effective and efficient.

"By constantly ignoring the voices of dissent, President Bush has managed to consistently get the biggest decisions wrong. For the sake of our nation and our troops we need the President to begin listening and cooperating with Congress and the American people."